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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant : Peter B. Madoff et al.

Art Unit : 2161

Serial No. : 09/272,542

Examiner : Elisca, P.

Filed : March 19, 1999

Title : AUCTION MARKET WITH PRICE IMPROVEMENT MECHANISM

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

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Technology Center 2100

RESPONSE

In response to the action mailed October 25, 2001, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 42 and 61.

Please amend claims 41 and 59, as follows:

(Amended) 41. A method of auctioning a product, said method comprising:

entering a pre-defined relative indication that corresponds to a willingness to buy or sell the product with the pre-defined relative indication specifying a price relative to a current market price, with the predefined relative indication remaining undisclosed as to the existence of the trading interest until matched with an order.

(Amended) 59. A computer program product residing on a computer readable medium for auctioning a product, comprising instructions for causing a computer:

store a pre-defined relative indication that corresponds to a willingness to buy or sell the product with the pre-defined relative indication specifying a price relative to a current market price and, with the predefined relative indication remaining undisclosed as to the existence of the trading interest until matched with an order;

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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February 21, 2002

Marie Collins

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